

In the Claims

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("____") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") being deleted:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for cooling a computer system, the computer system having a processor and a fan, said method comprising:

 determining a temperature threshold for operating the fan at greater than low speed;

 determining a temperature of the computer system; and

 throttling the processor, responsive to a pulse width modulated signal, if the temperature determined corresponds to the temperature threshold for operating the fan at greater than low speed.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

 determining a high-temperature threshold for the computer system; and

 beginning the throttling of the processor prior to the temperature of the computer system exceeding the high-temperature threshold.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

 operating the fan at greater than low speed if the throttling is inadequate to maintain the temperature of the computer system below the high-temperature threshold.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the high-temperature threshold for the computer system is a high-temperature threshold for the processor.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the fan is a continuously variable fan; and

wherein operating the fan at greater than low speed involves operating the fan at a highest speed of the fan.

6. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a fan operative to provide cooling airflow for reducing a temperature of the processor, the fan having a temperature threshold corresponding to operation of the fan at a speed greater than low speed; and

a temperature-monitoring unit operative to determine a temperature of the computer system and to throttle the processor if the temperature determined corresponds to the temperature threshold for operating the fan at greater than low speed; and

wherein the temperature-monitoring unit throttles the processor by providing a signal corresponding to a pulse width modulation output of the temperature-monitoring unit to the processor.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein:

the processor has a temperature sensor operative to generate a signal indicative of a temperature of the processor; and

the temperature-monitoring system receives the signal generated by the temperature sensor for determining the temperature of the computer system.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the temperature sensor is a thermal diode.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[13]] 10, further comprising:

an inverter arranged to receive the pulse width modulation output of the temperature-monitoring unit such that the processor receives the inverse of the pulse width modulation output.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 10, wherein the temperature-monitoring unit is selectively operative in one of a reduced-acoustic mode and a normal-acoustic mode such that:

in the normal-acoustic mode, the temperature-monitoring unit attempts to control the temperature of the computer system by adjusting the speed of the fan; and

in the reduced-acoustic mode, the temperature-monitoring unit attempts to control the temperature of the computer system by throttling the processor.

17. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein, in the normal-acoustic mode, if the temperature-monitoring unit is unable to control the temperature of the computer system by adjusting the speed of the fan, the temperature-monitoring unit also throttles the processor.

18. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein, in the reduced-acoustic mode, if the temperature-monitoring unit is unable to control the temperature of the computer system by throttling the processor, the temperature-monitoring unit also adjusts the speed of the fan.

19. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
a processor;
a fan for cooling the processor;
means for determining a temperature threshold for operating the fan at greater than low speed;
means for determining a temperature of the computer system; and

means for throttling the processor, responsive to a pulse width modulated signal, if the temperature determined corresponds to the temperature threshold for operating the fan at greater than low speed.

22. (Cancelled)